UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Ex parte SRIDHAR DATHATHRAYA

Application 09/944,695

ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER

This application was received electronically at the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences on April 10, 2006. A review of the application has revealed that the application is not ready for docketing as an appeal. Accordingly, the application is herewith being electronically returned to the examiner. The matter requiring attention prior to docketing is identified below:

A review of the Image File Wrapper (IFW) indicates that appellant filed an Appeal Brief on October 5, 2005. The examiner acknowledged the Appeal Brief in an Examiner's Answer mailed on December 30, 2005. Section 1207.02 of the Manual of

Application 09/944,695

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<u>Patent Examining Procedure</u> (MPEP) (8th Ed., Rev. 3, August 2005) states:

Requirements for Examiner's Answer

The examiner's answer is required to include, under appropriate headings, in the order indicated, the following items:

. . . .

(8) Evidence Relied Upon. A listing of the evidence relied on (e.g., patents, publications, admitted prior art), and, in the case of nonpatent references, the relevant page or pages.

It is noted that while the Examiner's Answer states that "[n]o evidence is relied upon by the examiner in the rejection of the claims under appeal" [page 4 under the caption "Evidence Relied Upon"], the claim rejections are listed as follows:

1. Claims 1-8, 10-25, and 27-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mazzagatte, et al (US 6,862,583), and further in view of DeBry (US 6,385,728).

Correction is required.

Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that the application is returned to the Examiner:

1) to submit a revised Examiner's Answer which corrects the "Evidence Relied Upon" section; and

Application 09/944,695

2) for such further action as may be appropriate.

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Bv:

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